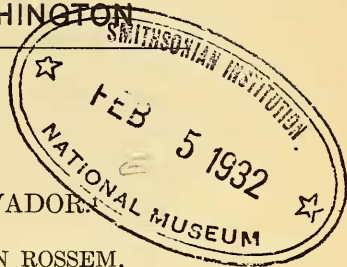


PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON



TWO NEW PIGEONS FROM SALVADOR

BY DONALD R. DICKEY AND A. J. VAN ROSSEM.

A series of band-tailed pigeons recently collected in the mountainous regions of Salvador prove to be readily distinguishable from the two heretofore recognized forms. Our series of the *Columbidae* also contains an apparently unnamed white-fronted dove. These races are characterized as follows:

Columba fasciata letonai, subsp. nov.

SALVADOR BAND-TAILED PIGEON.

Type.—Male adult; No. 16,640, collection of Donald R. Dickey; Mt. Cacaguatique, Dept. San Miguel, El Salvador, C. A.; December 16, 1925; collected by A. J. van Rossem; original No. 9,714; altitude 3,500 feet.

Subspecific characters.—Differs from *Columba fasciata fasciata* Say in more grayish purple, rather than reddish purple, under parts and head; and in paler, more grayish, upper parts. Differs from *Columba fasciata vioscae* Brewster in having a distinct tail band; in darker coloration of the throat, which is nearly concolor with the foreneck; and in having the posterior under parts more extensively washed with color, and therefore less whitish. Wing decidedly more pointed than in either *fasciata* or *vioscae*, the tenth primary being uniformly and strikingly longer than the seventh, instead of being decidedly shorter, equal to, or only very slightly longer, as in all specimens of the other two races we have examined.

Measurements of type.—Wing, 204; tail, 138, exposed culmen, 18.3; tarsus, 24.5; middle toe minus claw, 30.1.

Range.—Oak regions of the cordilleran spurs which enter Salvador along the Honduras border, and also on Volcan San Miguel. It is possible that Nicaraguan records belong to this new race.

Remarks.—The six specimens examined are very much smaller than the California examples of *fasciata* we have seen, but Ridgway (Birds of North and Middle America, pt. 7, 1916, p. 288) lists birds from points in the United States that are as small as our Salvador series. The new form

¹Contribution from the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California.

may well prove to be very restricted in range, since Mr. Ridgway noted no differences between Guatemalan and northern specimens.

Most of the birds on which the new race is based were paired and in breeding condition in December, although large flocks of non-breeders and young were also much in evidence. These flocks were possibly migratory.

It is with the greatest pleasure that we dedicate this Salvadorian race to Dr. Marcos A. Letona, Secretary of Agriculture of Salvador, who spared no effort or courtesy in facilitating, by every means at his command, our field investigations in his country.

Specimens examined.—*Columba fasciata fasciata*: California, 10. *Columba fasciata vioscae*: Lower California, 11. *Columba fasciata letonai*: Salvador, 6.

***Leptotila fulviventris bangsi*, subsp. nov.**

BANGS WHITE-FRONTED DOVE.

Type.—Male adult; No. 17,639, collection of Donald R. Dickey; altitude 2,500 feet; Volcan San Miguel, El Salvador, C. A.; March 21, 1926; collected by A. J. van Rossem; original No. 10,714.

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Leptotila fulviventris angelica* Bangs and Penard, but vinaceous of head, neck, and (to a lesser degree) chest brighter; upper parts, wings, and tail warmer, less grayish, brown. The iridescence of the nape and hindneck decidedly stronger and more richly colored. Differs from *Leptotila fulviventris fulviventris* in strikingly lighter forehead, and in lighter and less suffused under parts in general.

Range.—Salvador, south probably to Chinandega and the Matagalpa region of Nicaragua.

Remarks.—Mr. Ridgway (Birds of North and Middle America, pt. 7, 1916, p. 453) comments on the differences shown by Nicaraguan specimens, but the limited series at his disposal prevented him from formally naming the race. With the larger series now available from Salvador, it is evident that this extreme southern race differs constantly from the two heretofore recognized mainland forms.

The Salvador series, surprisingly enough, fails to prove the necessity of merging *fulviventris* with *verreauxi*, since the amount of rusty edging on the inner webs of the primaries, instead of being intermediate between *nuttingi* and *fulviventris* as would be expected, is in practice so slight as to approximate the condition found in *angelica*. The authors feel that these are merely geographic representatives of what may yet prove to be one species, but our Salvador material certainly fails to bridge this gap.

Specimens examined.—*Leptotila fulviventris fulviventris*¹: Yucatan, 3; Vera Cruz, 4. *Leptotila fulviventris angelica*¹: Chihuahua, 1; Texas, 6. *Leptotila fulviventris bangsi*: Salvador: Volcan San Miguel, 1; Mt. Cacagua-tique, 3; Lake Olomega, 3; Volcan Conchagua, 3; Rio San Miguel, 3; Puerto del Triunfo, 1; Sitio del Niño, 3; San Salvador, 1; Divisadero, 2.

¹Specimens in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass.